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## SYLLOGE--VOLUME III.

Saccardo—Sylloge Fungorum omnium hucusque cognitorum, Vol. III. *Sphaeropsidæ*, *Melanconieæ*, has at length appeared. The volume of 860 pages contains descriptions of 4,212 species, divided into 165 genera, of which *Phoma* embraces 632 species: *Septoria*, 581; *Phyllosticta*, 345; *Diplodia*, 264. As in the two preceding volumes, the fundamental principle of classification is based on the color, shape and septation of the spores. The application of the carpological system of classification to these families of fungi does not appear to have broken up and disarranged the old established genera to so great an extent as in the *Pyrenomycetes*, though various changes of more or less importance are to be noted. For instance, the *Hendersonias* with hyaline spores are made to constitute a new genus, *Staganospora*, Sacc., separated from *Hendersonia* by six intervening genera.

*Sphaeronema*, in the family *Sphaeroideæ*, is made to include only those species with membranaceous, coriaceous or carbonaceous perithecia and ovoid or oblong, continuous, subhyaline spores, while those with very thin, soft, membranous, bright-colored perithecia, with ellipsoid, continuous, hyaline spores, are placed in a new genus, *Sphaeronemella*, Sacc., belonging to another family. *Nectroideæ*, Sacc., and those with conic or spiniform, black perithecia and filifusoid, continuous, hyaline spores, make the genus *Sphaerographium*, Sacc., and those with perithecia bulbous at the base or equal, round or subclavate and spores fusoid-bacillary, generally falcate, septate, hyaline or yellowish, make the genus *Cornularia* (Karst.)

On page 442 we find *Lichenopsis sphaeroboloidea*, Schw. This was doubtless an oversight, as this is now known to be an ascigerous fungus, with long, filiform, multiseptate spores, and the reproduction of the original description of Schweinitz in this place without comment would be apt to mislead. The true character of this fungus is given in Grevillea, IV, p. 7, and specimens have been distributed in the North American Fungi, No. 453. It is announced that volume IV of the Sylloge will contain the *Hyphomycetes*, and will appear before the end of 1885, and also that the *Sylloge Hymenomycetum* now being prepared by Prof. Saccardo and Prof. Jos. Cuboni will appear, at least the first part, this year.

The Sylloge is certainly a very valuable work, and may be considered almost a necessity for all who aspire to a thorough knowledge of the fungi. Of course, if the author could have given us a thorough re-elaboration of the species, in this and the preceding volumes, showing which were worthy to stand and which were to be rejected, or reduced to synonyms, the work would have been still more valuable; but this was not the original scope of the undertaking, and would have required an amount of time and careful research (if carried through all the orders of fungi) for which a single lifetime would hardly suffice and we are glad Professor Saccardo has been able to give us the Sylloge, even such as it is, and hope he may meet with such support as may enable him to go on and finish up the work.

J. B. E.

Newfield, N. J., Feb. 11, 1885.